Government

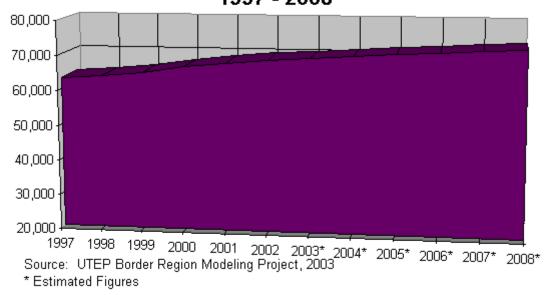
Due to the strategic and economic importance of the borderplex, several categories of state, local, and federal agencies maintain offices in El Paso. Many of those operations are designed specifically to manage issues that are unique to the border region. At the federal level, the United States Department of Homeland Security houses large units belonging to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services and to the Customs and Border Protection Commission to help manage the flows of persons, vehicles, and merchandise through regional ports of entry. With large and growing public school enrollments, local school districts collectively represent a major source of jobs as they tackle the challenge of educating El Paso's future leaders. Finally, Fort Bliss contributes large-scale impacts on the local economy and offers numerous career opportunities for civilians in the greater metropolitan area.

TOP TEN GOVERNMENT SECTOR EMPLOYERS

Employer	Number of Employees
El Paso Independent School District	8,663
2. Fort Bliss Civilian Employees	6,620
3. Yselta Independent School District	6,500
4. City of El Paso	6,264
5. The University of Texas at El Paso	4,871
6. Socorro Independent School District	3,995
7. El Paso Community College	3,728
8. County of El Paso	2,700
9. State of Texas (DHS, State Center, TXDOT, Health, DPS)	2,164
10. Department of Homeland Security (FBI, INS, DEA, Border Patrol)	1,786

Source: Department of Economic Development, City of El Paso, June 2003.

El Paso MSA Government Sector Employment Growth and Projections 1997 - 2008



Total public sector employment currently accounts for more than 21 percent of all jobs in the El Paso metropolitan economy. Between 1997 and 2002, the consolidated government sector contributed 6,100 new jobs to the local labor market, a figure that could have climbed even higher if budgetary constraints had not resulted from the 2001 national economic downturn. State, local, and federal jobs in El Paso should collectively eclipse the 73,000 mark by 2008.

GOVERNMENT SECTOR EMPLOYMENT GROWTH AND PROJECTIONS

1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003* 2004* 2005* 2006* 2007* 2008*

Total

Employment 63,228 64,097 65,160 67,032 68,232 69,329 70,119 70,829 71,473 72,111 72,738 73,325

Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project, 2003

Annual Averages